



Hobnobbing with

Founded
1966HOBBYISTS  UNLIMITED

<http://www.hobbyists-unlimited.com>

Be sure to visit the website where the Roster of Members and additional information on most activities can be found, along with the full version of this Newsletter.



*Editor's Note: **Ed Daly**, our incoming President, has provided an informative and colorful look at his interesting background. We wish him a productive term of office and pledge our support. We also want to thank **Rich Edelman**, our outgoing President, for a job well done!*

I was born at a very young age. Well that's not a good start is it?

I was born in New York City. I attended Rich High School and Iona College before being drafted in 1965. My military career (two years – not much of a career) took a very fortunate turn. I was scheduled to train as a crew chief on a Huey helicopter with a guaranteed trip to Viet Nam, but President Johnson ordered a troop build-up and training cadre were needed. Instead I was assigned to train as a flight simulator operator and ground school instructor. I spent the remainder of my tour in Alabama training helicopter pilots.

After discharge, I finished getting my bachelors degree from Herbert H. Lehman College. I then studied for an MBA at Fordham University.

I worked for AT&T for twenty years. After the company was broken up by the Justice Department, I worked for The General Electric Company of the UK, Panasonic, British Telecom and finally Telemeasurements Inc. After leaving AT&T I began working in the emerging videoconferencing field. I wrote two books on the subject. I'm still waiting for a movie offer. When I started, a specialized computer for interactive videoconferencing sold for \$250,000. We didn't sell many. Now the technology is included in a smartphone. My wife Janet and I have been married for 51 years. We have three children and four grandchildren. We have lived in Ridgewood for over 45 years. I have been a Hobbyist for seven years.

As president, I would like to encourage the various activity chairmen to use our communication resources to let more Hobbyists know about the activities available to our members.

New Members:

Ed Driscoll, 18 Stone Fence Road, Mahwah. His wife is Patricia. Bowling, Golf, ROMEO.

Steve Fromm, 148 Unadilla Rd., Ridgewood. His wife is Judi. Bocce, Bridge, Golf, Habitat, Hiking, Music, Public Affairs.

Lou Fucito, 30 Walthery Ave. Ridgewood. His wife is Dotti. Bocce, Camera, Habitat, Hiking, Music, Science.
Rick Rosenthal, 312 Stevens Ave., Ridgewood. His wife is Dori. Bocce, Books, Bridge, Fishing, Habitat, Hiking, Investments, Military History, Music, Public Affairs, Science & Tech., Walking.
Kevin Twibell, 17 Sloane Ct., Stony Point, NY. Fishing, Golf, Investments, Movies.
Chuck Woehrle, 740 Linwood Ave., Ridgewood. His wife is Jill. Bocce, Books, Bowling, Bridge, Fishing, Habitat, Investments, Military History, Winemaking.

Activities:

Archive (**Joe Suplicki**, jssuplicki@aol.com, (201) 316-3262)

Audio (**Bob Mosher**, 201-689-9651, rmosher895@aol.com) An assistant is needed.

Bocce (**Roger DuBroff**, 201-327-7014, dubroffr@yahoo.com) Friday at 10:00 a.m. at the Superdome in Waldwick.. Join us and have lots of fun.

Book Club (**Alan Stein** 447-4235, stampmaven1@verizon.net, **Peter Philip** 666-0105) 3rd Friday, 10:00 a.m., at the Church.

The Immortal Irishman, written by Timothy Egan, will be discussed at the next meeting on December 21. The book details the life of Thomas Francis Meagher, a scholar, poet and an Irish nationalist in the 19th century. As a participant in a failed uprising against the British in the 1840s, Meagher was condemned to be hanged; his sentence was commuted for life in Tasmania. He escaped to America, where he became a General leading the Irish Brigade during the Civil War, and later, Territorial Governor of the Montana Territory. **Al Gensch** will lead the discussion.

Bowling (**Charlie Tuch**, 973-636-9211, clt976@optonline.net, **Don Peterfriend**, 201-739-8672, dpeterfriend@yahoo.com, **John Pensec**, 447-1317, jpensec@optonline.net, **Mike Doherty**, 447-4625, mikedoh@aol.com, **Gary Don**, 574-3506, garydon@verizon.net) Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. at Bowlero Lanes, Fair Lawn.

Bridge (**Rick Pascal**, 201-791-9526 and **Jim Deaver**, 201-666-2066) Thursdays, 11:45 a.m., in the East Room of the Church. Play concludes at approximately 4:00 p.m. Some 21 players of the 37-member roster are active participants. Newcomers are welcome.

As 2018 comes to a close I want to thank all the members of the Bridge Group for making it a fun and exciting year. We've enjoyed each other's company and had a great time playing bridge together, some of us continuing to learn and improve our bridge-playing skills thanks to our more experienced players who demonstrated and imparted their knowledge and patience. Our thanks go to **James Hildreth**, stepping back from the bridge committee, who was instrumental in obtaining the refreshments each week. Thanks also to **Jim Deaver** for his tireless work in gathering, deciphering and distributing each week's scoring to the members, as well as acting as club treasurer. Jim will continue as treasurer, while new committee members **Bill Flynn** and **Ray Cheubon** will work together on each week's scoring. We have a vibrant group and continue to welcome more bridge players into our circle of bridge playing friends. Wishing all a Happy and Safe Holiday Season, **Rick Pascal**, Chairman

At present, **Bert Taylor**, **Raj Mehta** and **Ed Zelhof** are the top scorers, with **Jim Deaver** and **Jim Angus** rounding out the top five.

Camera (**Giancarlo Bisone**, 201- 644-8844, gbisone@optonline.net) 1st Wednesday, 2:00 p.m. at the Church. The 2018 Photo Exhibit at the Ridgewood Public Library recently concluded to rave reviews. Twenty-two members displayed 44 of their photos that portrayed architecture, culture, landscape, fauna, and flora from 15 countries.

Dinner Dances (**Ed Daly** (201-447-4603, eddaly386@yahoo.com; **Phil Almeida**, 201-445-9935

phil1231@optonline.net; **Bill Healy**, 201-652-5868 whealy3741@aol.com). The Holiday Dinner Dance will be Monday, December 17 at Seasons. Check the web site for updates.

Fishing (Gene Boyle, 862-377-9016, gbrealty@optonline.net)

Golf (Paul Fazio, 201-445-3426, faz90@optonline.net)

The club championship tournament was held on September 27 at The Meadows Golf Course . John Smith was named the club champion recording a 75 or five over par. A great score considering the course conditions. John also won the club championship in 2014 and 2015.

Winners by Flight were :

Flight A - Low Gross: John Smith , Low Net: Don Hart, Longest Drive: Ian Coburn, Closest to the Pin: Mike Doherty and Closest to the Line: John Smith

Flight B - Low Gross: Paul Richert, Low Net: Joe Augustine, Longest Drive: Rick Pascal, Closest to the Pin: Mike Hurley and Closest to the Line: Tom Lewis

Flight C - Low Gross: Bob Norelli, Low Net: Dick Spalchaver, Longest Drive: Len Manis, Closest to the Pin: Charlie Tuch . There was no Closest to the Line in Flight C.

The successful 2018 season ended with a luncheon at Mezza Luna in Allendale attended by 55 golfers. Hobbyists can now register online for the 2019 season on the Hobbyists website. Next year's plan includes an annual Atlantic City trip May 14-16, 2019.

The Golf committee is **Mike Doherty, Gary Don, Gary Engelhardt, George Giaquinto, Charlie Tuch, Tom Desmond, Paul Richert** and **Bob Norelli**.

Gourmet Cooking Group (Jim McKeown, 201-327-3411, jimmckeown@optonline.net)

Hiking (Ed Collins, 201-445-5158, edward5158@aol.com)

Hobbyaires (Joe Hovan 201-445-6708)

Hobbyists Concerned (Peter Philip 201-666-0105) If you are on the e-mail list, most communications, illnesses, hospital stays, and deaths will be reported to you through an e-mail message. Those without e-mail will receive a phone call. If you prefer to be on the calling list rather than notified by e-mail, contact **Joe Savitscus**, 201-661-8469.

Investments – (Bill Flynn, 917-693-1469, williamaflynn@gmail.com) All meetings of the Investment Group meet at 2:00 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of each month at the church.

Italian Club (Don Togneri, 201-445-0679, dtogneri@yahoo.com). Meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 1:00 p.m., at the church. A “Basic” group will meet at 2:00 p.m. on the fourth Thursday.

Jazz Bunch (Bob Stevenson at 201-615-1202, robtstevenson@hotmail.com) The Hobbyists Jazz Bunch consists of Hobbyists who enjoy all forms of jazz and swing music and periodically attend interesting concerts in the metro NY/NJ area. If you are interested in joining, please contact Bob Stevenson.

Lunch Bunch (Bob Sayegh, 201-670-6010, bobsay14@gmail.com).

Membership (Ed Lundell , 201-857-1992, lundeeco@gmail.com , Steve Hochman, 201- 424-9701, shochman@gmail.com)

Military History Club (Tom Heed, 845-534-8695) 3rd Monday of each month at the Church.

Movie Lovers (Dick Oswald, 201-447-4053, ddoswald@verizon.net) Movie Lovers usually meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m., at the Village Hall, ground floor. There is a discussion period at each film showing.

Music Lovers (Jim McKeown, 201-327-3411, jimmckeown@optonline.net) 2nd Friday, 10:00 a.m. at the Church.

In November, Jim McKeown presented an outstanding educational, entertaining, and emotional program, *The Irish: The Famine & Emigration*, to more than 100 Hobbyists and guests. *Winter's Crossing From Despair to Hope to Joy* was produced by Phil Coulter with assistance from James Galway, Liam Neeson and the Irish Philharmonia. It is dedicated to both Irish and Protestant countrymen and Scots departing from Derry to 'Amerikay'. Other appropriate music was integrated to give this presentation a well rounded appeal.



Pinochle (**Bill Flynn**, 917-693-1469, williamaflynn@gmail.com) The Pinochle club now will have two chances to play cards. We have established a group gathering to play Double Deck Pinochle at the clubhouse at 8 Tamaron Dr. Waldwick, NJ on Mondays from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m..

We will also be playing at the Church on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. We will teach anyone to play the game in all the variations.

There is also an interest in the game of Hearts. Anyone looking for a chance to play during this time period, please contact me by phone or email. 917-693-1469 williamaflynn@gmail.com

Poker (**Paul Levin** 201-444-7729, **Dan Wolf** 201-825-7769)

Public Affairs (**George Mackey**, gfmjd@aol.com, 201-445-3777; **Dom Casulli** 201-261-4991) 2nd Wednesday at 2:00 p.m., Church Auditorium.

ROMEO (**Cliff Matthews**, 201-447-9040, mrmcem@optonline.net). ROMEO meets at different moderately priced BYO places on the 3rd Friday of the month and is a pleasant way to meet and socialize with fellow Hobbyists.

Science and Technology (**Elliot Ratchik**, 914-420-4330, eratchik@gmail.com) 3rd Wednesday, 2:00 p.m., Church auditorium.

Tennis (**Dick Oswald**, 201-447-4053, ddoswald@verizon.net, **George Shabet**, 201-444-8492, jonhoz@aol.com)

Trips and Tours, Extended (**Ray Cheesman**, 201 652 9372, raycheesman@yahoo.com). Except for the Norway* trip, please contact Group Tours for reservations 973-513-9001.

- April 12 - 15, 2019 We are planning a 4-day tour that includes the National Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, D. C. , The National Harbor, Smithsonian Museums, Arlington National Cemetery and much more.
- *July 2-16, 2019 or August 2-16, 2019 There are two dates available for this tour. The 15-day tour includes stops in Helsinki, Finland, Lapland and the Norwegian Fjords aboard a Norwegian Coastal Voyage ship. The tour ends in Oslo, Norway. Call Grand Circle Travel 800 597 2452, option 2, and mention The Hobbyists Group Code GGG9-900. This trip is open to family and friends.

- July 27-August 5, 2019 A 10-day tour including a 7-night Louisville to St. Louis river cruise on the Ohio, Tennessee & Cumberland Rivers aboard the first All-Suite Paddle Wheeler on US rivers. Highlights: Round-trip. air from Newark to Louisville & St Louis. Accommodations in Lexington, Ky. and the Brown Hotel, Louisville. Ports of call: Brandenburg Ky; Owensboro Ky; Paducah Ky; Cape Girardeau Mo; Chester Il. and St Louis Mo. Also, a tour of the Kentucky Derby Museum and Churchill Downs; Abraham Lincoln birthplace; My Old Kentucky Home ; Louisville Slugger Museum; St Louis Arch and much more.
- September 16-23, 2019 We are planning an 8-day tour of Colorado, Santa Fe and Taos, New Mexico with roundtrip air from Newark to Denver and Albuquerque. It includes The Garden of The Gods, U.S. Olympic Training Center, Taos Pueblo, Kit Carson Home and Museum, Governor Bent House and much more.
- October 20-25, 2019 Five nights in Napa, Calif. includes visits to ten Napa & Sonoma Wineries, Muir Woods National Park, Sausalito, Disney Family Museum and much more. Details should be available in January.

Trips & Tours, Day (Bob Sayegh, 201-670-6010, bobsay14@gmail.com)

Volunteer Services

Eva's Kitchen (Don Togneri, 20-1 445-0679, dj2dm2@hotmail.com)

Ten Hobbyists will provide dining support services for Eva's Kitchen in Paterson this January. Eva's Kitchen is part of Eva's Village, a large non-profit charitable organization that provides a wide range of help to individuals and families on a non-sectarian basis. More than 20 Hobbyists plan to participate in this new activity, and regularly scheduled monthly or twice-monthly trips to Eva's Kitchen are anticipated.

An Activity Chairman to coordinate the efforts of this activity is needed. Interested? Please contact Don Togneri at dj2dm2@hotmail.com.

Habitat For Humanity (Paterson, **Rich Edelman**, 201- 973-427-7647, edelmanr@optonline.net ; **Ed Daly** 201-447-4603, cell 201- 960-7069, eddaly386@yahoo.com) Hobbyists volunteers continue to provide key support to both the Bergen and Paterson units of Habitat for Humanity.

Walking (Pete Seibel, 201-573-8350, peterams@aol.com) The group walks the Saddle River bike path every Thursday morning starting at 9:00 a.m. from the Duck Pond in Ridgewood. The Walking Group walks 52 weeks a year weather permitting.

Wine Appreciation Group –WAG: (Bob Stevenson, 201-615-1202, robtstevenson@hotmail.com)

Winemaking (Paul Richert, 201-967-1347 or prichert@optonline.net) This year's focus will be producing two 60-gallon wine barrels. A Pinot Noir, which was crushed in 2017, has been maturing nicely in the barrel, and will be ready for bottling in April 2019. Plans for producing an Amarone in the exact same way as in the Valpolicella region in Italy is underway. This wine will spend about 18 months in the barrel before bottling in April, 2020. Previous Amarone wines produced by the Hobbyists were spectacular, and similar results are expected. The Winemakers are also exploring producing a Chilean wine, and chair Paul Richert will be discussing this with membership. Interested in joining? Contact Paul at priche7314@gmail.com.

Monthly Presentations

November - Bill Haggerty, CPA, provided useful information about Estate Planning and Inheritance Taxes at last month's meeting. The presentation was timely given recent changes in state law.

December-The Ridgewood High School Chorale Group performed holiday songs magnificently to an appreciative Hobbyists audience.

Hobbyists Alert - If you ignore robo calls from a Caller ID that you don't recognize, you may be missing important calls from the Hobbyists. The service we use is **CALLING POST**, although at times the calling number with an area code of 405 is used instead. So unless you have voicemail or an answering machine, we suggest you take the call.

Hobbyists News Staff – **Mark Singer**, Chairman (201-446-6809 msinger@ramapo.edu)
Bill Carbone (201-652-6693, becarbo@optonline.net); **Bob Cestola**, (201-785-0634,
bobmarie1@optonline.net) **Ed Daly** (201-447-4603, eddaly386@yahoo.com)
Ed Lundell (201-857-1992, lundeeo@gmail.com)

The First Presbyterian Church
722 East Ridgewood Ave
Ridgewood, NJ 07450-0399